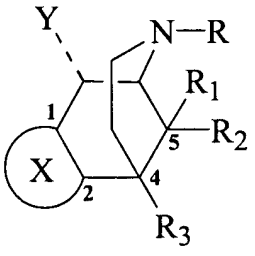
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 18 and 19 as provided in the following Claims Listing.

Claims Listing:

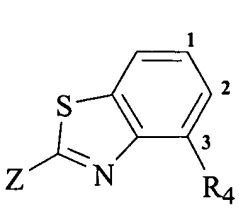
1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I:



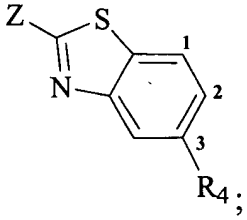
(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

X includes the carbon atoms at positions 1 and 2 and is selected from



and



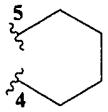
;

Y is H, oxo, or methyl;

R is selected from H, C_{1-7} alkyl, C_{2-7} alkenyl, C_{2-7} alkynyl, C_{2-6} heterocyclyl, C_{6-12} aryl, C_{7-14} alkaryl, C_{3-10} alkheterocyclyl, and C_{1-7} heteroalkyl;

R_1 is H;

R_4 is H and R_2 and R_3 combine to form a fused six-membered ring in which position 4 is connected to position 5 by



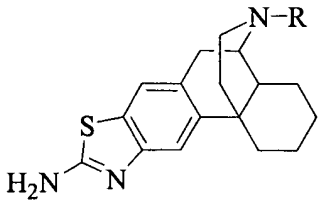
Z is $-NHR_5$; and

R_5 is H.

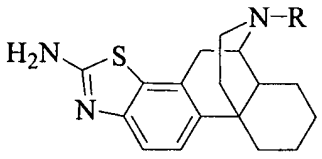
2. Canceled.

3. Canceled.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is described by formulas II or III:



(II)

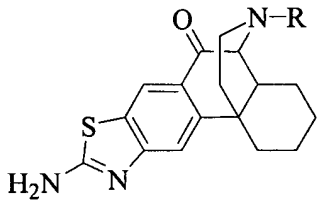


(III)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R is selected from H, C_{1-7} alkyl, C_{2-7} alkenyl, C_{2-7} alkynyl, C_{2-6} heterocyclyl, C_{6-12} aryl, C_{7-14} alkaryl, C_{3-10} alkheterocyclyl, and C_{1-7} heteroalkyl.

5-7. Canceled.

8. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is described by formula IX:



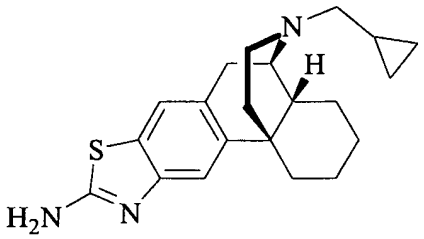
(IX)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R is selected from H, C_{1-7} alkyl, C_{2-7} alkenyl, C_{2-7} alkynyl, C_{2-6} heterocyclyl, C_{6-12} aryl, C_{7-14} alkaryl, C_{3-10} alkheterocyclyl, and C_{1-7} heteroalkyl.

9. Canceled.

10. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 4 or 8, wherein R is selected from CH_3, CH_2(cyclo-C_4H_7), CH_2(cyclo-C_3H_5), $CH(CH_3)$(cyclo-C_3H_5), $CH_2CH_2CH_2F$, $CH_2CH_2OCH_3$, $CH_2CH_2OCF_3$, $CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$, $CH_2CH{=}CH_2$, *trans*-$CH_2CH{=}CHI$, $CH_2C{\equiv}CH$, benzyl, phenethyl, 3,4-dichlorophenethyl, 3-furanylmethyl, 2-furanylmethyl, 3-tetrahydrofuranylmethyl, and 2-tetrahydrofuranylmethyl.

11. (Original) The compound of claim 10, wherein said compound has the structure



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12-15. Canceled.

16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of any of claims 1, 4, 8, 10, or 11, or a suitable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

17. (Original) A method of treating pain in a patient in need thereof, said method comprising the step of administering to said patient a pharmaceutical composition of claim 16 in an amount sufficient to treat said pain.

18-22. Canceled.